

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior revisions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus to record hits to a contestant engaged in sparring with another contestant, said apparatus comprising:

a first item of clothing having ~~at least one~~ a plurality of first electrically conductive ~~strip~~ strips and ~~at least one~~ a plurality of second electrically conductive ~~[[strip]]~~ strips, wherein ~~at least one~~ said first electrically conductive ~~strip~~ strips are adjacent to ~~at least one~~ said second electrically conductive ~~[[strip]]~~ strips and are formed into at least one electrically independent target region;

a voltage receiving mechanism, having a first lead and a second lead, wherein said first lead is electrically connected to said ~~at least one~~ first electrically conductive ~~[[strip]]~~ strips and said second lead is electrically connected to said ~~at least one~~ second electrically conductive ~~[[strip]]~~ strips;

a second item of clothing, having at least one electrically conductive portion, which can electrically connect at least one of said first electrically conductive ~~[[strip]]~~ strips and at least one of said second electrically conductive ~~[[strip]]~~ strips of said first item of clothing when said at least one electrically conductive portion of said second item of clothing is in contact with said first item of clothing; ~~[[and]]~~

~~an indicating device~~ a first transmitter that is electrically connected to said ~~at least one~~ plurality of first electrically conductive ~~[[strip]]~~ strips and said ~~at least one~~ plurality of second

electrically conductive ~~[[strip]] strips~~ and ~~provides an indication~~ transmits a signal indicative of
when said at least one electrically conductive portion of said second item of clothing electrically
connects at least one of said first electrically conductive ~~[[strip]] strips~~ and at least one of said
second electrically conductive ~~[[strip]] strips~~ of said first item of clothing, which occurs when
said second item of clothing is in contact with said first item of clothing~~[[.]]~~;

a first receiver for receiving said signal from said first transmitter indicative of when said
at least one electrically conductive portion of said second item of clothing electrically connects at
least one of said first electrically conductive strips and at least one of said second electrically
conductive strips of said first item of clothing, said first receiver being electrically connected to a
first indicating device;

said first indicating device including an electronic display capable of visually displaying
output responsive to the signal received from said first transmitter; and

the output displayable on said electronic display including a representation of the actual
target region associated with each contestant where a hit is scored, a representation of the actual
weapon used by one contestant to score a particular hit against the other contestant, and the
elapsed time when a contestant is first hit.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first item of clothing is selected
from the group consisting of a vest, a facemask and headgear.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said second item of clothing is selected
from the group consisting of at least one boot and at least one glove.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1[[,]] wherein said first indicating device ~~includes an audio alarm~~ is a hand-held device.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1[[,]] further including a D.C. battery[[,]] having a first terminal and a second terminal, wherein said first terminal is electrically connected to said first lead of said voltage receiving mechanism and said second terminal is electrically connected to said second lead of said voltage receiving mechanism.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [[7,]] 1 wherein said at least one electrically independent target region for a vest is selected from the group consisting of a torso, an abdomen, a groin, a right lateral trunk and a left lateral trunk.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [[7,]] 1 wherein said at least one electrically independent target region for a headgear is selected from the group consisting of a face, a back of a head, a right side of a head, a left side of a head and a top of a head.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 3[[,]] wherein said at least one electrically conductive portion for said at least one boot is selected from the group consisting of a

top of an instep, a top of a posterior heel, a bottom of a ball of foot and a bottom of a plantar heel.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 3[[,]] wherein said at least one electrically conductive portion for said at least one glove is selected from the group consisting of a back of a fist, a front of a fist, a radial side of a hand and an ulnar side of a hand.

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, ~~at least one first electrically conductive strip includes a~~ wherein said plurality of first conductive strips are connected to the first lead for the voltage receiving mechanism, having a first polarity, and ~~the at least one second electrically conductive strip includes a~~ said plurality of second conductive strips are connected to the second lead for the voltage receiving mechanism, having a second polarity, wherein at least one first conductive strip is transverse to another first conductive strip of the plurality of first conductive strips and electrically connected to each other and at least one second conductive strip of the plurality of second conductive strips is transverse to at least one first conductive strip of the plurality of first conductive strips and is electrically insulated therefrom.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus to record hits to a contestant engaged in sparring with another contestant, said apparatus comprising:

a first item of clothing having at least one first electrically conductive strip and at least one second electrically conductive strip, wherein at least one said first electrically conductive strip is adjacent to at least one said second electrically conductive strip;

a voltage receiving mechanism, having a first lead and a second lead, wherein said first lead is electrically connected to said at least one first electrically conductive strip and said second lead is electrically connected to said at least one second electrically conductive strip;

a second item of clothing, having at least one electrically conductive portion, which can electrically connect at least one said first electrically conductive strip and at least one said second electrically conductive strip of said first item of clothing, which occurs when said at least one electrically conductive portion of said second item of clothing is in contact with said first item of clothing;

a first indicating device that is electrically connected to said at least one first electrically conductive strip and said at least one second electrically conductive strip and provides an indication when said electrically conductive portion of said second item of clothing electrically connects at least one said first electrically conductive strip and at least one said second electrically conductive strip of said first item of clothing, which occurs when said second item of clothing is in contact with said first item of clothing; and

a first transmitter that is electrically connected to at least one said first electrically conductive strip and at least one said second electrically conductive strip and transmits ~~an indication~~ a signal indicative of when said electrically conductive portion of said second item of clothing electrically connects at least one said first electrically conductive strip and at least one said second electrically conductive strip of said first item of clothing, which occurs when said second item of clothing is in contact with said first item of clothing[.];

a first receiver for receiving said signal from said first transmitter indicative of when said electrically conductive portion of said second item of clothing electrically connects at least one

said first electrically conductive strip and at least one said second electrically conductive strip of

said first item of clothing;

said first receiver being electrically connected to a second indicating device;

said second indicating device including a processor connected to said first receiver and a
first electronic display connected to said processor; and

said first electronic display being capable of visually displaying a representation of the
various weapons used by each contestant to score a hit, a representation of various target areas
associated with each contestant for scoring a hit, and a time when one of the contestants is struck
by a weapon of the other contestant.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[16,]]~~ 13 wherein said first electronic display is selected from the group consisting of an incandescent light array display, a light emitting diode display, a cathode ray tube display, a liquid crystal diode display and a plasma tube display.

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[16,]]~~ 13 wherein said processor is connected to a second transmitter that sends a signal to a second receiver that is connected to a second electronic display.

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 18~~[[,]]~~ wherein said second electronic display is selected from the group consisting of an incandescent light array display, a light emitting diode display, a cathode ray tube display, a liquid crystal diode display and a plasma tube display.

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~16, wherein said~~ 13 including at least one input device ~~is capable of~~ capable of altering input from said first receiver and providing functions selected from the group consisting of turning said processor on and off, awarding points, awarding partial points, correcting errors, paging through memory of said processor, resetting said processor, providing a warning and stopping a timing sequence.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A method to record hits to a contestant engaged in sparring with another contestant, said method comprising:

contacting a first item of clothing with a second item of clothing, wherein said first item of clothing includes at least one first electrically conductive strip and at least one second electrically conductive strip, wherein at least one said first electrically conductive strip is adjacent to at least one said second electrically conductive strip and there is a voltage receiving mechanism, having a first lead and a second lead, wherein said first lead is electrically connected to said at least one first electrically conductive strip and said second lead is electrically connected to said at least one second electrically conductive strip, and said second item of clothing includes at least one electrically conductive portion that can electrically connect at least one said first electrically conductive strip and at least one said second electrically conductive strip of said first item of clothing when said at least one electrically conductive portion of said second item of clothing is in contact with said first item of clothing;

~~providing an indication with an indicating device that is electrically connected to said at least one first electrically conductive strip and said at least one second electrically conductive strip when said at least one electrically conductive portion of said second item of clothing electrically connects at least one said first electrically conductive strip and at least one said second electrically conductive strip of said first item of clothing, which occurs when said second item of clothing is in contact with said first item of clothing; and~~

transmitting an electronic indication with a first transmitter that is electrically connected to at least one said first electrically conductive strip and at least one said second electrically conductive strip when said electrically conductive portion of said second item of clothing

electrically connects at least one said first electrically conductive strip and at least one said second electrically conductive strip of said first item of clothing, ~~which occurs when said second item of clothing is in contact with said first item of clothing;~~

receiving said electronic indication with a first receiver from said first transmitter that indicates when said electrically conductive portion of said second item of clothing electrically connects at least one said first electrically conductive strip and at least one said second electrically conductive strip of said first item of clothing; and

displaying output received from said electronic indication on a first indicating device having an electronic display capable of visually displaying such output, said output displayable on said electronic display including a representation of each of the different types of weapons used by each contestant to score a hit, a representation of each of the different target regions associated with each contestant where a hit can be scored, a representation of the actual weapon used by one contestant to score a particular hit against the other contestant, and a representation of the actual target region associated with each contestant where a particular hit is scored.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[25,]] 24 further ~~includes~~ including altering input received from said first receiver with at least one input device connected to a processor, wherein said processor is connected to said first receiver and a ~~first~~ said electronic display.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (New) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said output displayed on said electronic display further includes a digital score for each contestant.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said output displayed on said electronic display further includes the sequence of hits scored to each contestant and the elapsed time between any sequence of hits.

30. (New) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said output displayed on said electronic display further includes a weapon icon representative of the weapon used by a contestant to score a particular hit.

31. (New) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said output displayed on said electronic display further includes a target icon representative of the target region of each contestant where a hit has been scored.

32. (New) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said first indicating device is a public scoreboard.

33. (New) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said first indicating device is connected to a second transmitter that sends a signal indicative of when said at least one electrically

conductive portion of said second item of clothing electrically connects at least one of said first electrically conductive strips and at least one of said second electrically conductive strips of said first item of clothing to a second receiver that is connected to a second electronic display, said second electronic display being capable of visually displaying the same output as said first electronic display.

34. (New) The apparatus of claim 1 including at least one input device capable of altering input from said first receiver and providing functions selected from the group consisting of turning said first indicating device on and off, awarding points, awarding partial points, correcting errors, paging through memory associated with said indicating device, resetting said indicating device, providing a warning and stopping a timing sequence.

35. (New) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the representation of the various weapons used by each contestant includes a weapon icon associated with each of the various weapons.

36. (New) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the representation of the various weapons used by each contestant includes an alphabetic representation for each such weapon.

37. (New) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said first electronic display is capable of further visually displaying the time remaining in a competition, a score for each contestant

based upon the number of hits scored, an elapsed time when a contestant has been hit, and the timing between any sequence of hits.

38. (New) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said first indicating device includes an audio alarm.

39. (New) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said at least one first electrically conductive strip includes a plurality of first electrically conductive strips and said at least one second electrically conductive strip includes a plurality of second electrically conductive strips which are formed into at least one electrically independent target area.

40. (New) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said first item of clothing is selected from the group consisting of a vest and a headgear.

41. (New) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said second item of clothing is selected from the group consisting of at least one boot and at least one glove.

42. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the output displayable on said electronic display further includes output from the group consisting of time remaining in a competition, a score for each contestant, the sequence of hits scored against a contestant, and the timing between any sequence of hits.